

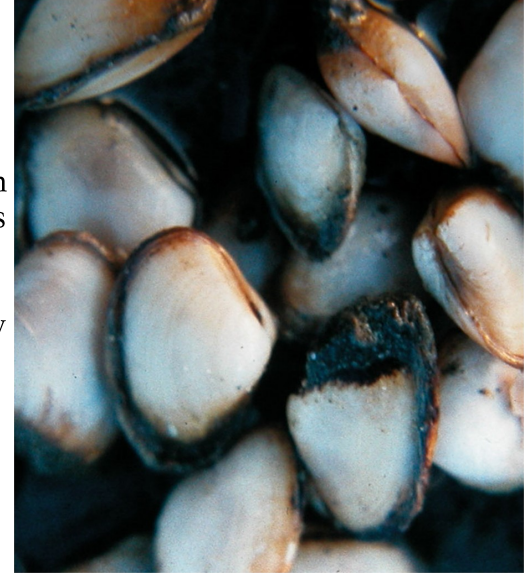


Corbula amurensis

Amur river clam, Asian bivalve, Asian clam, Chinese Clam

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
 - Causes dramatic changes to the soft sediment communities of the area
 - Responsible for the collapse of some commercial fisheries in addition to the decline in the diversity and abundance of many benthic species in the area
 - Consumes large amounts of phyto- and zooplankton and therefore changes many of the existing community dynamics, resulting in many benthic species being unable to obtain enough food for growth
 - Also a dominant species in the bay, accounting for 95% of the bio-mass in some areas, reducing the amount of available space for other species to grow and reproduce
2. Invasive potential
 - Transported in ships ballast, sea water systems, live wells, or other deck basins
 - With its ability to survive in polluted environments, this salinity-tolerant bivalve has a distinct advantage in invading a variety of geographic areas and habitats
3. Geographic extent
 - Locally pervasive
4. Management difficulty
 - Ballast water management
 - Incursion in Australia triggers an emergency response
 - New Zealand has surveillance systems in place for early detection - classified as one of 6 exotic high-impact species
 - Physical controls have been unsuccessful



Geography and Habitat

1. Native: Japan, China
2. Introduced: San Francisco Bay, California
3. Habitats
 - Marine, estuaries/bays, intertidal zones
 - Found from almost freshwater areas to high salinity areas
 - Occurs in all sediment types: mud, peat, clay, sand and is most abundant on a variety of mixed mud-sand bottoms (NIMPIS, 2002a)

Invasion Pathways

1. Ship ballast water

Non native locations

1. 58- Northern California

Sources

1. Molnar, Jennifer, et al. 2008. "Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity." *Frontiers in*

Ecology and the Environment. 6 (9), pp. 485-492.

2. <http://conserveonline.org/workspaces/global.invasive.assessment>
3. http://www.exoticsguide.org/images/c_amurensis_lg_c.jpg